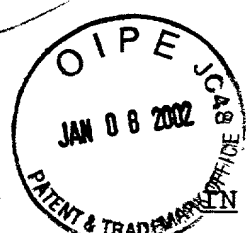


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: SMITH, et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/978,131
FILED: October 16, 2001

Group Art Unit:
Examiner:

FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING BREATHING GASES

RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS
FILING DATE GRANTED

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

This is a response to the NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS, FILING DATE GRANTED (the "Notice") dated November 20, 2001. The period for response to the NOTICE without extra charges expires January 20, 2002 and is extendable up to and including May 20, 2002. The Notice requires that substitute drawings be filed and same are submitted herewith. A copy of the Notice is also enclosed.

RECEIVED

Respectfully submitted,

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Dec 11, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on Dec 11, 2001.

Dec 11, 2001

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BY:
ROBERT M. SKOLNIK



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10/16/2001

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/978,131	10/16/2001	T. Paul Smith	

CONFIRMATION NO. 3792

FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000007094594

ROBERT M. SKOLNIK
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PO Box 22
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Date Mailed: 11/20/2001

NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

Filing Date Granted

This application has been accorded an Application Number and Filing Date. The application, however, is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a)

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- Substitute drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 because:
 - Drawings must be in dark ink (not pencil), except where color drawings or photographs are permitted.

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

Customer Service Center
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE